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## **IRS Scam Alert**

by Stacie White, Economic Crimes Unit

The 10th Judicial District Attorney's Office has received numerous phone calls from community citizens stating they are receiving phone calls from what is purported to be the IRS. These calls seem to be escalating in more aggressive and intimidating tactics than what they have used in the past. They often alter caller ID's to make it look like the IRS or another government agency is calling. They further make demands of money and threats of arrest if the payment is not made immediately. Please, be aware that the IRS does not conduct business this way nor will they call and demand immediate payment. Every taxpayer has a set of fundamental rights when dealing with the IRS and as such, you have a right to question or appeal the amount you owe.

If you know you owe, or think you may owe tax to the IRS, you may call the IRS at 800-829-1040 and an employee will assist you.

If you do not owe tax and receive one of these calls, **DO NOT** give out any personal information. Hang up immediately and contact the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) at 800-366-4484 to report the call, or you may make a report online at [https://www.treasury.gov/tigta/contact\\_report\\_scam.shtml](https://www.treasury.gov/tigta/contact_report_scam.shtml).

Should you receive an IRS scam by email, DO NOT open any attachments or click on any links within the email. Forward the email to [phishing@irs.gov](mailto:phishing@irs.gov)

***~ IDENTIFY A SCAM BEFORE A SCAM IDENTIFIES YOU! ~***